

A new North American Genus Belonging to the Group *Nemobiites* (Orthoptera, Gryllidae).

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*Hygronemobius** n. gen.

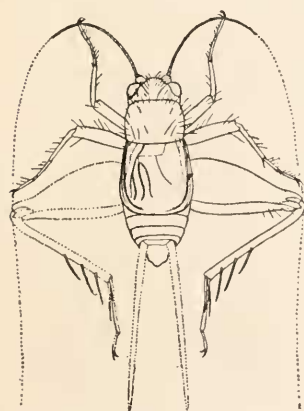
1905. *Nemobius* Morse (not of Serville, 1839), *Psyche*, XII, pp. 21-22.

The genus is monotypic. Genotype—*Hygronemobius alleni* [*Nemobius alleni*] (Morse).

Allied to *Nemobius*,† from which genus it may be separated by the somewhat differently shaped pronotum, much reduced tympanum of the caudal face of the cephalic femora and very different armament of the caudal tibiae.

Though nearer to *Nemobius* than to any of the other allied genera, the facts that in the present genus the tegmina of the male lack a tympanum and the caudal tibiae are each supplied with five, not six, distal spurs, show that in these characters it agrees instead with *Paranemobius*,‡ which genus is, however, very different in numerous other important respects.

Generic Description.—Size small; form compact; body pubescent and sparsely clothed with hairs. Head and its appendages similar to *Nemobius*, but



with interantennal protuberance somewhat more feeble. Pronotum similar to *Nemobius*, excepting the ventro-cephalic angles of lateral lobes which are rectangulate and much sharper than the ventro-caudal angles. Tegmina very abbreviate in the male§ and wanting a tambourine, having a single oblique vein as in *Nemobius*. Wings absent. Caudal face of cephalic tibiae bearing a small,

*From *ὑγρός* = moist, and *Nemobius* = grove-dweller.

† 1839. Serville. *Hist. Nat. des Ins., Orth.*, p. 345.

‡ 1877. Saussure. *Melang. Orth.*, II, Fasc. V, pp. 226, 231, 234-235, fig. IV.

§ All of the females known of this genus are nymphal, and Morse's statement that this sex is wingless, as well as his description of the ovipositor, in consequence cannot be used as characters for the genus or species. The nymphal females, though about two-thirds grown, show no trace of tegminal development.

scarcely perceptible, ovoid tympanum, corresponding portion of cephalic face not swollen. Caudal femora greatly dilated; caudal tibiæ with dorsal margins each armed with three pairs of extremely long, widely spaced, unmodified, mobile spines* placed in a double row and armed distad with three external and two internal spurs. The ventro-internal spur, always present in *Nemobius*, is missing in the present genus. Caudal metatarsi non-sulcate and unarmed dorsad.

Remarks.—With the exception of the characters given for the female, the original description of *H. alleni*, with which is also given valuable data on the capture and habits of the insect, is excellent. A study of the North American species of the genus *Nemobius* has prompted the examination and study of the typical material of this insect.

The peculiar reduction of the tegmina in the male of this insect is shown in the figure here given.

Distribution.—This genus is known only from the mangrove swamps of Moraine Cay in the northern Bahamas.

A New Parasite of the House Fly (*Acarina*, *Gamasoidea*).

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(Plate XVII.)

The great interest which of recent years has attached to the house fly because of the discovery of its role as a disease-carrier has caused economic entomologists to consider all possible means which may be employed for its control. As in the case of most insect pests, natural enemies have received much attention in this regard. So far, although no one species has been found that offers any serious check to the increase of the house fly, many have been recorded as preying upon it. Dr.

* These spines are evenly rounded and covered with hairs, but have, like in *Nemobius*, their apices uncinatè, smooth, sharp and hard.